

tions. No elaborate instructions are given of how to treat fresh tissues with gold, silver, and other now indispensable methods of studying the tissues. This is only apparently an omission, for such a knowledge is not to be gained by mere reading, but by actual work in the laboratory.

Dr. Barker has succeeded in accomplishing the difficult task of translation in a very creditable manner, presenting us with good, readable English; a feat that is by no means always achieved.

R. M. B.

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ART. XXXVII.—*Compendium of Children's Diseases: A Hand-book for Practitioners and Students.* By Dr. JOHANN STEINER, Professor of the Diseases of Children in the University of Prague, etc. Translated from the second German edition by LAWSON TAIT, F.R.C.S., Surgeon to the Birmingham Hospital for Women, etc. 8vo. pp. xvi., 408. New York: D. Appleton & Co., 1875.

Dr. STEINER has been collecting materials for this work during the whole period of his connection with the Francis Joseph Hospital for Children in Prague, extending over more than fifteen years. The field for observation is a large one, and the book affords abundant evidence that the author has known how to use his opportunities. The translator, Mr. Lawson Tait, hardly needs an introduction to an American audience, being well known in this country through his contributions to medical literature. The book is, as its title says, a compendium; and, therefore, while it contains a good deal of information—even surgical affections and congenital deformities being included—cannot be regarded as a complete treatise. It will be valuable to the American student, chiefly, we think, because it affords him a better idea of German therapeutics in children's diseases than he can obtain elsewhere, but will scarcely take the place of some of the books already in his possession, which contain a fuller description than Dr. Steiner gives of the summer complaints to which so many children succumb in this country. Mr. Lawson Tait has added, as an appendix, the "Rules for Management of Infants," issued by the Birmingham Sick Children's Hospital, which are, in the main, similar to those recommended by the Obstetrical Society of Philadelphia. J. H. H.

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ART. XXXVIII.—*Sex in Industry; a Plea for the Working Girl.* By AZEL AMES, Jr., M.D. 24mo. pp. 158. Boston: J. R. Osgood & Co., 1875.

THE writer of this little volume seeks to do for girls working for a living, what Dr. E. H. Clarke has done for girls studying—that is, to procure proper recognition and consideration of sexual peculiarities. At present, he argues, the position of the female worker is even worse than that of her studious sister. With the latter, only the methods and manner of exertion need to be changed. With the former, not method only, but the character of labour is often radically wrong. The girl-student may safely learn all that her brother does, if only she study under proper observance of the rules of female health. But the girl-worker is often put to tasks for which she is wholly unfit, under any regulation, and which should be assigned only to males or adult women.

· Ten per cent. or more of working women in the United States are under fifteen years of age. It is hardly needful to add that very many of those who have passed this age have not yet fully established their menstrual function. The methods of nearly all female labour, outside of the household, are but too well adapted to disorder this function; while some forms are necessarily and radically inconsistent with healthful development in very young women.

The vast amount of illness among female operatives, due to unsuitable work and improper methods, causes an immense aggregate economic loss to the State. There is the direct loss of productive industry, and the consequent loss from cost of cure or support, besides the diminution in the number of children to become producers in their turn. Unfortunately, too, the sickness of this class and from these causes is peculiarly apt to be prolonged into chronic invalidism.

A distinct and great evil arising from female industry as now existing, comes through the moral influences which the conditions and associations exert upon the young and unformed natures of the girls. The loss of modesty, the premature awakening of passions, and many other deplorable results of shop and factory life, do certainly in the long run impair the productive capacity as well as ruin the moral character of many.

It is a very curious fact, and seems, to our now awakened attention, almost incredible, that in all the many inquiries and investigations set on foot at home and abroad into the sanitary influences, conditions, and needs of the working classes, the effect of employment upon sexual health has been almost completely ignored and unthought of. It was left for Massachusetts, in 1874, to recognize the reality and the import of such connection.

A compact tabular exhibit is presented of the results, first to the worker, secondly to the State, of any form of labour which seriously interferes with normal feminine development. The suggestions of personal misery are terrible, and those of State loss startling, when we are shown that thousands of young girls are engaged in such work in all our manufacturing centres, and in all great cities. The directions in which wrong is done are, in putting girls at work too early in life, working them too many hours, setting them tasks fit only for fully developed women, and allowing no relaxation when "unwell." Even in women nearly or quite mature, serious functional disturbance, and its dread train of evil consequences, are found very often to result from the severity of their labours, and the intense concentration of mind and rapidity of manipulation frequently required, in conjunction with poor food and unwholesome habits and surroundings. If not directly caused, as above, functional trouble may be consequent upon other disease thus produced.

The writer goes on to show how, everywhere, children are set at work too early, even in defiance of statutes, which have not been enforced. Laws fixing a minimum age, requiring certain school attendance, and otherwise regulating juvenile industry, have been unskillfully drawn, and are evaded by connivance of parents and employers.

The effect of their work upon the health and future of their employés is wholly disregarded by employers. Mills, shops, and stores are run without the slightest care for such trifles. The cruel rules which keep shop-girls standing are denounced. A quotation from Dr. Van de Warker gives a forcible exhibition of the anatomical peculiarities which indicate long standing to be much less possible for women than for men.

The employment of young women is shown to be generally excessive in duration, and often extremely exhaustive from the constant and close attention which it requires, and from bad hygienic conditions.

The writer now passes to an examination, in detail, of the more prominent forms of female industry which he believes to be ill-suited to any but strong and fully developed women. The baneful results following the employment of very young or delicate women, in these employments, are forcibly presented, with abundance of cogent testimony. The kinds of work here shown to require strength and maturity in the female worker, are many kinds of mill-work, type-setting, telegraphy, basket-making, the counting of money and other things, and operating the sewing-machine. There are many curious and pertinent illustrations of the direct and marked injury resulting to the functions of young women thus engaged. The union of rapid or delicate manipulation, with a constant and concentrated attention, as required especially in setting type and in attending to the business of a telegraph office, proves fairly ruinous to the sexual health of young girls.

Whether or not it will be found practicable so to modify the methods of the above-mentioned employments, and so to secure shorter hours of labour and more frequent vacations, that young women may safely engage in them, is a question of vast importance. Some general suggestions only are advanced by the writer as to possible improvements. The diffusion of correct views concerning the effects of occupation upon female health and functions, and enlightened laws rigidly enforced, are the directions in which Dr. Ames is disposed to look for practical relief. Only when legislators and the public attain to something like a correct appreciation of both the moral and the economic need of considering sex in connection with industry, will it become possible to obtain efficient legislation. Some suggestions as to points to be covered by future laws, with brief reflections on the true position of the working woman, close the volume.

The whole general tone of this book, and even little peculiarities of arrangement and method, as well as its title, show a pretty close copying of Dr. Clarke's style and spirit. As, however, the writer is perfectly frank in his acknowledgment of indebtedness to that gentleman in the execution of his work if not in its origin, such similarity to an excellent model is worthy, perhaps, rather of praise than blame. In point of clearness of statement, however, and correctness of expression, the comparison suggested does not redound to our author's credit. The views presented are, however, so sound and so well established by testimony, and the general tendency of the work so good, that mere literary criticism would be ungracious. We heartily wish that it may be very widely read by all classes of readers.

B. L. R.

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ART. XXXIX.—*Spinal Paralysis of the Adult; Acute, Subacute, and Chronic.* By E. C. SEGUIN, M.D.

*Infantile Spinal Paralysis.* By E. C. SEGUIN, M.D. 8vo. pp. 47. New York: D. Appleton & Company, 1874.

THE first of these papers was read before the New York Academy of Medicine Nov. 5, 1874, and the second is a Clinical Lecture which was delivered at the Collège of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, in 1873. The two are now printed together in pamphlet form, and present an unusually neat appearance as regards both the binding and typography.

The affection to which Dr. Seguin first calls our attention, namely, "spinal paralysis of the adult," is striking from the close relationship which it bears to the "essential paralysis of infancy." Its existence has been known for some